

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER 93-147

(RESCINDING PORTIONS OF ORDERS 92-037 AND 92-086 PERTAINING TO
DISCHARGERS AND TASKS)

REVISED SITE CLEANUP REQUIREMENTS FOR:

ELECTRITE PLATING COMPANY OPERABLE UNIT
1803 AND 1805 BAY ROAD
RAVENSWOOD INDUSTRIAL AREA,
EAST PALO ALTO
SAN MATEO COUNTY

PRIMARY DISCHARGER: ELECTRITE COMPANY, INC.
SECONDARY DISCHARGER: PHILLIP WANG

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region
(hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. SITE DESCRIPTION The Ravenswood Industrial Area (herein after called the Site) in the City of East Palo Alto, consists of numerous privately owned parcels or properties which are located adjacent to wetlands along the western margin of San Francisco Bay (Figure 1). These properties consist generally of agricultural, manufacturing, auto wreckers, and storage facilities. The site area has been used for agricultural and industrial purposes for at least the past 60 years.
- 1.1 OPERABLE UNIT DESIGNATION The Site has been divided into Operable Units (OUs) in order to expedite investigation and cleanup and to more accurately determine responsible parties. OUs may consist of single parcels, groups of parcels or portions of parcels which have similar uses, ownership or pollution.
- 1.2 OPERABLE UNIT DESCRIPTION The Electrite OU is located on the Wang property which includes: 1801, 1803, 1805 Bay Road and 141 Demeter Street (Figure 2). The Wang property is divided into two separate uses, Electrite Company, Inc. (Electrite) occupying 1803 and 1805 Bay Road and Sunrise Towing (Sunrise) occupying 1801 Bay Road and 141 Demeter Street. A single building located at the 1801, 1803 and 1805 Bay Road addresses is shared by Electrite and Sunrise. The portion of the property occupied by Electrite (Figure 3) defines the current extent of the Electrite OU and shall be addressed by this Order.

2. OPERABLE UNIT HISTORY The building on the 1801-1805 Bay Road portion of the property was constructed in 1958. The 1801, 1803 portion of the building was occupied by Magix Dye for the manufacture of shoe dye. Electrite began occupation of this portion of the property in 1974 for operation of a metal plating facility. Electrite remained until early 1993 when operation ceased. Chemicals and equipment related to Electrite activities are currently being removed from the building.
- 2.1 CHEMICAL USE Chemicals related to Electrite activities include: tin sulfate, sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, chromic acid, cadmium oxide, cuprous cyanide, nickel sulfate, cyanide, sodium hydroxide, sodium hypochlorite, sodium metasilicate, and zinc. In addition, strip and clean solutions containing: trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, methylene chloride, and ethylene dichloride were also used.
3. INVESTIGATIONS Pursuant to the requirements of Site Cleanup Requirements (SCR) Orders 92-037 and 92-086, a site and chemical use history report and workplan for additional investigation was submitted to the Board by Wang. These reports compiled previous investigatory work performed on the property, preliminarily identifying impacts to the property.
- 3.1 SOIL A preliminary assessment of the Electrite OU was conducted by the State Department of Health Services (DHS). Analytical results of soil presented in the DHS report of January 1988 indicated cadmium at 5340 mg/kg, lead at 2780 mg/kg, and nickel at 1560 mg/kg. The extent of soil pollution has not been defined.
- 3.2 GROUNDWATER Potential groundwater impacts at the Electrite OU have not been determined.
4. REGULATORY HISTORY On April 15, 1992, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, adopted SCR Order 92-037 for several parcels in the Ravenswood Industrial Area. These parcels comprise about 70 percent of the total acreage. SCR Order 92-037 was later amended by SCR Order 92-086 to include all other properties located in the Ravenswood Industrial Area. The SCR Orders contain tasks required to evaluate if soil and or groundwater pollution has occurred by past or present Site use activities. The Orders named each of the individual property owners as dischargers because of their current ownership of the Site properties and required they comply with all requirements for their individual parcels. Wang was named as a discharger of 1801, 1803, 1805 Bay Road and 141 Demeter Street and was required to submit a site and chemical use history and workplan for investigation. Wang has submitted these reports to the Board.
- 4.1 DISCHARGERS Electrite Company, Inc. is named as a primary discharger of pollutants related to their operation, because of its known use of these chemicals and their presence in soil on the Electrite OU. Phillip Wang is named as a secondary discharger because of his ownership of the property and shall be responsible for

compliance with the requirements of this Order should Electrite fail to comply. Should additional information be obtained by the Board that indicates others have contributed to the dischargers, this Order may be amended to reflect such findings.

5. RATIONALE FOR ORDER The Board, pursuant to SCR Orders 92-037 and 92-086, is initiating a sub-regional cleanup of the Ravenswood Industrial Area to address soil and groundwater pollution that pose a threat to surface and groundwater in the Bay margin area of East Palo Alto and also represent potential sources of delay to Board regulation of cleanup on adjacent sites. Soil pollution has been confirmed by sampling at the Electrite OU. Chemicals detected in soil are related to Electrite activities. Further investigation is necessary to define extent of soil pollution and determine impacts to groundwater.
6. SCOPE OF ORDER This Order shall rescind portions of Orders 92-037 and 92-086 relating to dischargers and tasks. This Order names Electrite as the primary discharger of pollutants based on its operations which have impacted the property. The Order also names Wang as a secondary discharger based on his ownership of the property. This Order shall set forth a revised task and time schedule for additional investigation necessary to define impacts to soil and groundwater at the Electrite OU. This Order does not include potential discharge(s) related to other activities on the Wang property. Should information indicating other discharge(s) on the Wang property occurred, additional Board action may be required.
7. COST RECOVERY The dischargers have been advised that the Regional Board intends to enter into cost recovery pursuant to Section 13304 of the California Water Code. This will entitle the Board to seek reimbursement for, all reasonable costs actually incurred by the Board to investigate unauthorized discharges of wastes and to oversee cleanup of such waste, abatement of the effects thereof, or other remedial action, required by this Order. The Industrial Property Owners Association, DBA Industrial Development Employment Association (IDEA) is the contact for cost recovery billing by the State Water Resources Control Board. IDEA is a privately held corporation for area redevelopment whose membership includes Wang and the other dischargers named in SCR Order 92-037. If the City of East Palo Alto Redevelopment Agency becomes involved in this Regional Cleanup Action, the Regional Board intends to continue cost recovery with the dischargers pursuant to requirements of Assembly Bill 3193.

BASIN PLAN

8. The Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) on December 17, 1986. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives and beneficial uses for South San Francisco Bay and contiguous surface and groundwater.

9. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the groundwater underlying and in the vicinity of the site include:
 - a. Industrial process water supply
 - b. Industrial service water supply
 - c. Municipal and Domestic water supply
 - d. Agricultural water supply
10. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the surface waters (San Francisco Bay and San Francisquito Creek) and wetland include:
 - a. Contact and non-contact water recreation
 - b. Warm and cold fresh water habitat
 - c. Fish migration and spawning
 - d. Commercial and sport fishing
 - f. Preservation of rare and endangered species
 - g. Estuarine habitat
 - h. Wildlife habitat
 - i. Salt marsh habitat
 - j. Navigation
 - k. Shellfish harvesting
 - l. Industrial service supply
11. The primary discharger has caused or permitted, and threaten to cause or permit, waste to be discharged or deposited where it is or probably will be discharged to waters of the State and create or threaten to create a condition of pollution or nuisance as defined in Section 13050(m) of the California Water Code.

CEQA

12. This action is an order to enforce the laws and regulations administered by the Board. This action is categorically exempt from the provisions of the CEQA pursuant to Section 15321 of the Resources Agency Guidelines.

NOTIFICATIONS

13. The Board has notified the dischargers and interested agencies and persons of its intent under California Water Code Section 13304 to prescribe Site Cleanup Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with the opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
14. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Section 13304 of the California Water Code, that the dischargers, their agents, successors and assigns, shall cleanup and abate the effects described in the above findings as follows:

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. The discharge of wastes or hazardous materials in a manner which will degrade water quality or adversely affect the beneficial uses of the waters of the State, is prohibited.
2. Significant migration of pollutants through surface or subsurface transport to waters of the State, is prohibited.
3. Activities associated with the subsurface investigation and cleanup which will cause significant adverse migration of pollutants, are prohibited.
4. The storage, handling treatment or disposal of soil or groundwater containing pollutants shall not create a nuisance as defined in Section 13050(m) of the California Water Code.

B. SPECIFICATIONS

1. The dischargers shall conduct site investigation and monitoring activities as needed to define the current local hydrogeologic conditions and the lateral and vertical extent of soil and groundwater pollution. Should monitoring results show evidence of pollutant migration, additional characterization of pollutant extent may be required.
2. The cleanup standards for source-area soils shall be health-based and protective of human health and the environment. A human health risk assessment shall be the basis for establishing soil cleanup standards, and shall follow EPA guidance. If levels higher than those set by health-based parameters for pollutants are proposed, the discharger must demonstrate that cleanup to lower levels is infeasible, that the alternate levels will not threaten the quality of waters of the State, and that human health and the environment are protected. If levels higher than those set by health-based parameters are proposed, physical and institutional controls shall be considered. If any pollutants are left in the soil, a program of continued groundwater monitoring may be required.
3. Final cleanup standards for polluted groundwater, onsite and offsite, shall be in accordance with State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16, "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California". Proposed final cleanup standards shall be based on a feasibility study of remedial alternatives that compare implementability, cost,

effectiveness, time to achieve cleanup goals and an assessment of risk to determine affect on beneficial uses, human health and the environment. Assessment of human health risk shall follow EPA guidance. Cleanup standards shall also have the goal of reducing the mobility, toxicity, and volume of pollutants.

4. If groundwater extraction and treatment is considered as an alternative, the feasibility of water reuse, reinjection, and disposal to the sanitary sewer must be evaluated. Based on the Regional Board Resolution 88-160, the dischargers shall optimize, with a goal of 100%, the reclamation or reuse of groundwater extracted as a result of cleanup activities. The dischargers shall not be found in violation of the Order if documented factors beyond the discharger's control prevent the dischargers from attaining this goal, provided the dischargers have made a good faith effort to attain this goal by feasible and practicable means. If reuse or reinjection is part of a proposed alternative, an application for Waste Discharge Requirements may be required. If discharge to waters of the State is part of a proposed alternative, an application for an NPDES permit must be completed and submitted in a timely manner, and must include the evaluation of the feasibility of water reuse, reinjection, and disposal to the sanitary sewer.

C. PROVISIONS

1. The dischargers shall comply with the Prohibitions and Specifications above, in accordance with the following time schedule and tasks.

- a. TASK: SUBMIT SUPPLEMENTAL SITE USE HISTORY
DUE DATE: January 15, 1994

Description: Electrite shall submit a technical report acceptable to the Executive Officer containing a supplemental site use history for the Electrite OU. The supplemental shall focus on chemical handling practices, identifying potential source areas of pollution.

- b. TASK: SUBMIT REVISED WORKPLAN FOR SITE INVESTIGATION AND SCHEDULE FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND SUBMITTAL OF FINAL REPORT
DUE DATE: February 15, 1994

Description: Electrite shall submit a technical report acceptable to the Executive Officer containing all elements of the workplan for characterization of soil and groundwater pollution at the Electrite OU. The workplan may include the March 15, 1993, submitted to the Board by Wang pursuant to SCR Orders 92-037 and 92-086, and shall be modified, if necessary, to reflect any

new findings in the supplemental site and chemical use history. This revised workplan shall also include a time schedule for implementation and as well as a Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP), Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and a Site Health and Safety Plan.

- c. **TASK: SUBMIT RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AND PROPOSE FURTHER INVESTIGATION NECESSARY**
DUE DATE: as proposed in task C.1.b. and approved by the Executive Officer

Description: Electrite shall submit a technical report acceptable to the Executive Officer containing the results of the investigation as specified in the Workplan. The dischargers shall also propose further investigation necessary to fully characterize soil and groundwater pollution. Interim remedial measure shall also be proposed, if appropriate. A comprehensive program for groundwater monitoring and schedule for sampling shall also be proposed.

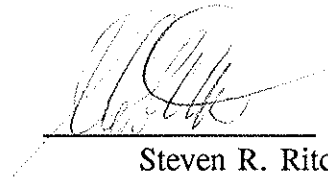
2. The dischargers shall submit to the Regional Board acceptable reports on compliance with the requirements of this Order that contain descriptions and results of work and analyses performed. It is not Board intent to duplicate any reports due, therefore any reports due concurrently may be combined. These reports are prescribed below:
- a. A program of groundwater monitoring shall be established based on the site investigation report proposal of task C.1.c. The dischargers shall submit reports to the Board on results of groundwater monitoring. Groundwater monitoring reports shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule proposed in Provision C.1.c. and approved by the Executive Officer. All compliance and monitoring reports shall include at least the following:
- 1) Cumulative tabulated results of water quality sampling analyses for all wells and groundwater pollution plume maps based on these results.
 - 2) A cumulative tabulation of all well construction details, water level measurements and updated piezometric maps based on these results.
 - 3) Reference diagrams and maps including any updated geologic cross sections describing the hydrogeologic setting of the site, and appropriately scaled and detailed base maps showing the location of all monitoring wells and extraction wells, and identifying facilities and structures.
- b. The dischargers shall submit annual summary status reports on the progress of compliance with all requirements of this Order and propose modifications which could increase the effectiveness of final cleanup actions. The first report shall be due on January 31, 1995, and would cover the previous

calendar year. The report shall include at least: progress on site investigation and remediation, operation and effectiveness of remediation actions and systems, and an evaluation of the feasibility of meeting groundwater and soil cleanup goals.

3. The dischargers may, by written request, seek modifications or revisions of this Order or any program or plan submitted pursuant to this Order at any time. This Order and any applicable program, plan, or schedule may be modified, terminated or revised by the Board.
4. If the dischargers may be delayed, interrupted or prevented from meeting one or more of the completion dates specified in this Order, the dischargers shall promptly notify the Executive Officer. If, for any reason, the dischargers are unable to perform any activity or submit any document within the time required under this Order, the dischargers may make a written request for a specified extension of time. The extension request shall include a justification for the delay, and shall be submitted in advance of the date on which the activity is to be performed or the document is due. The Board staff may propose an amendment to the Order and bring the matter to the Board for consideration.
5. All hydrogeological plans, specifications, technical reports and documents shall be signed by or stamped with the seal of a State registered geologist, registered civil engineer, or certified engineering geologist.
6. All samples shall be analyzed by State certified laboratories or laboratories accepted by the Executive Officer using approved EPA methods for the type of analysis to be performed. All laboratories or the consultant shall maintain quality assurance/quality control records for Board review for a period of six years.
7. The dischargers shall maintain in good working order, and operate in the normal standard of care, any facility or control system installed to achieve compliance with the requirements of this Order.
8. Copies of all correspondence, reports, and documents pertaining to compliance with the Prohibitions, Specifications, and Provisions of this Order shall be provided to the following agencies:
 - a. San Mateo County Health Department
 - b. City of East Palo Alto
 - c. Cal-EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control
 - d. The Executive Officer may require additional copies be placed in a public repository

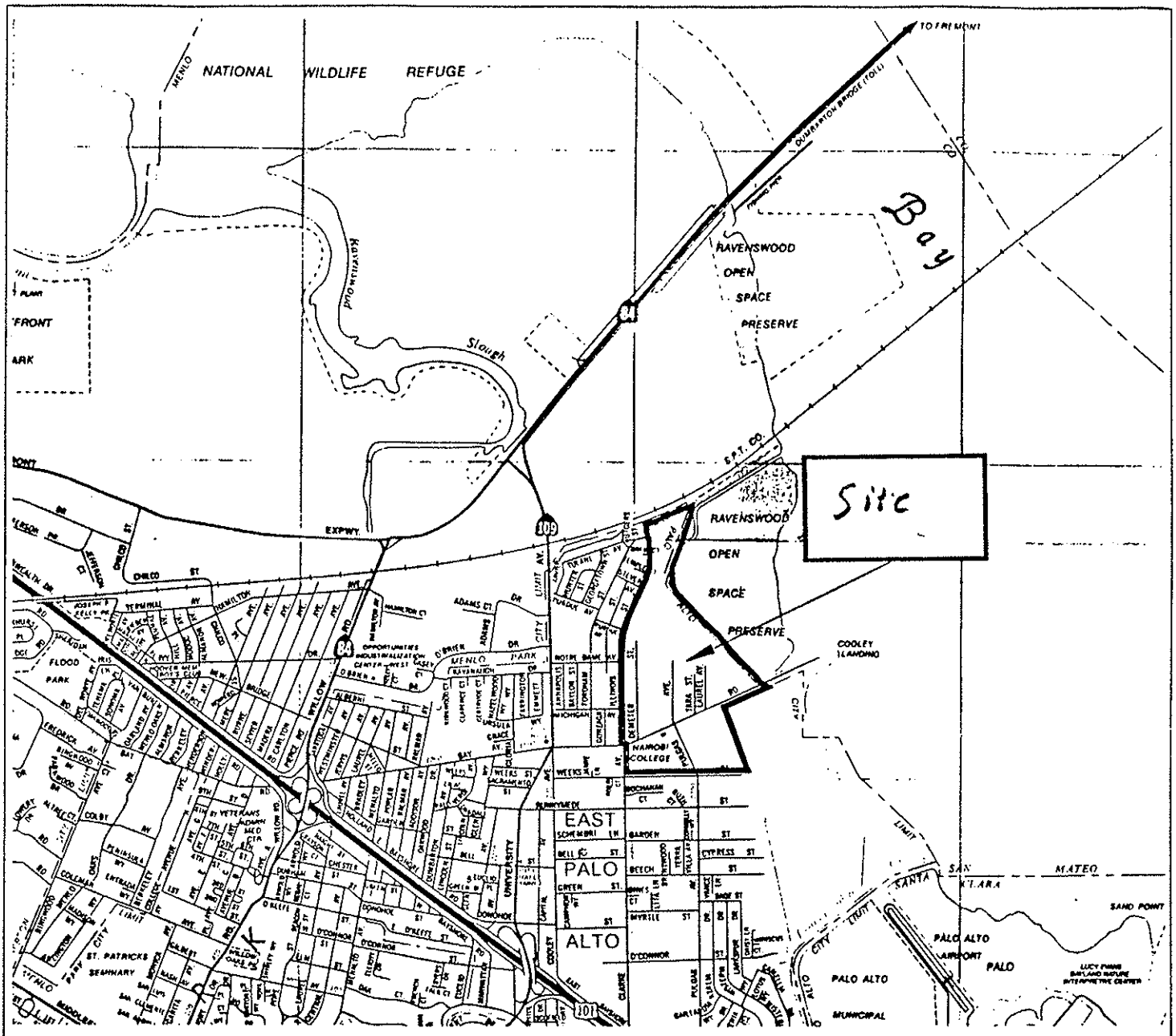
10. The dischargers shall permit, within the scope of each of their authorities, the Board or its authorized representative, in accordance with Section 13267 (c) of the California Water Code:
 - a. Entry upon dischargers' premises in which any pollution sources exist, or may potentially exist, or in which any required records are kept, which are relevant to this Order.
 - b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this Order.
 - c. Inspection of any monitoring equipment or methodology implemented in response to this Order.
 - d. Sampling of any groundwater or soil which is accessible, or may become accessible, as part of any investigation or remedial action program undertaken by the discharger.
11. The dischargers shall file a report in a timely manner on any changes in site occupancy and ownership associated with the facility described in this Order.
12. If any hazardous substance is discharged in or on any waters of the State, or discharged and deposited where it is, or probably will be discharged in or on any waters of the State, the dischargers shall report such a discharge to this Board, at (510) 286-1255 on weekdays during office hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and to the Office of Emergency Services at (800) 852-7550 during non-office hours. A written report shall be filed with the Board within five (5) working days and shall contain information relative to: the nature of the waste or pollutant, quantity involved, duration of incident, cause of spill, Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan in effect, if any, estimated size of affected area, nature of effects, corrective measures that have been taken or planned, and a schedule of these activities, and persons notified.
13. This Order is intended to be the primary regulating document by which cleanup of the Electrite OU shall proceed with the Board as lead agency.
14. The Board will review this Order periodically and may revise the requirements when necessary.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on November 19, 1993.

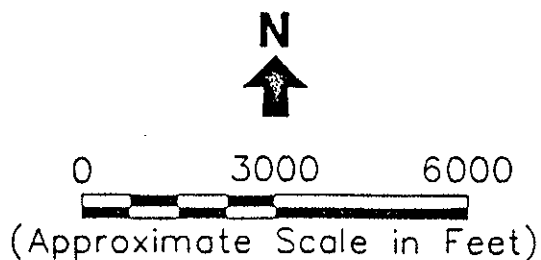
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Ritchie", is written over a horizontal line.

Steven R. Ritchie
Executive Officer

Figure 1, Site Location Map
Figure 2, Wang Property Map
Figure 3, Electrite OU Map



Source: California State Automobile Association (1991)



**Erler &
Kalinowski, Inc.**

Project Location Map

IDEA
East Palo Alto, CA

March 1993
EKI 920050.00

Figure 1

Notes:

1. All locations are approximate.



(Approximate Scale in Feet)

LEGEND

Property-Line

—x—
Fence

Notes:

1. All locations are approximate.

**Erler &
Kalinowski, Inc.**

Wang Properties 1801/1805 Bay Road

APN 063-133-130/063-133-110

IDEA

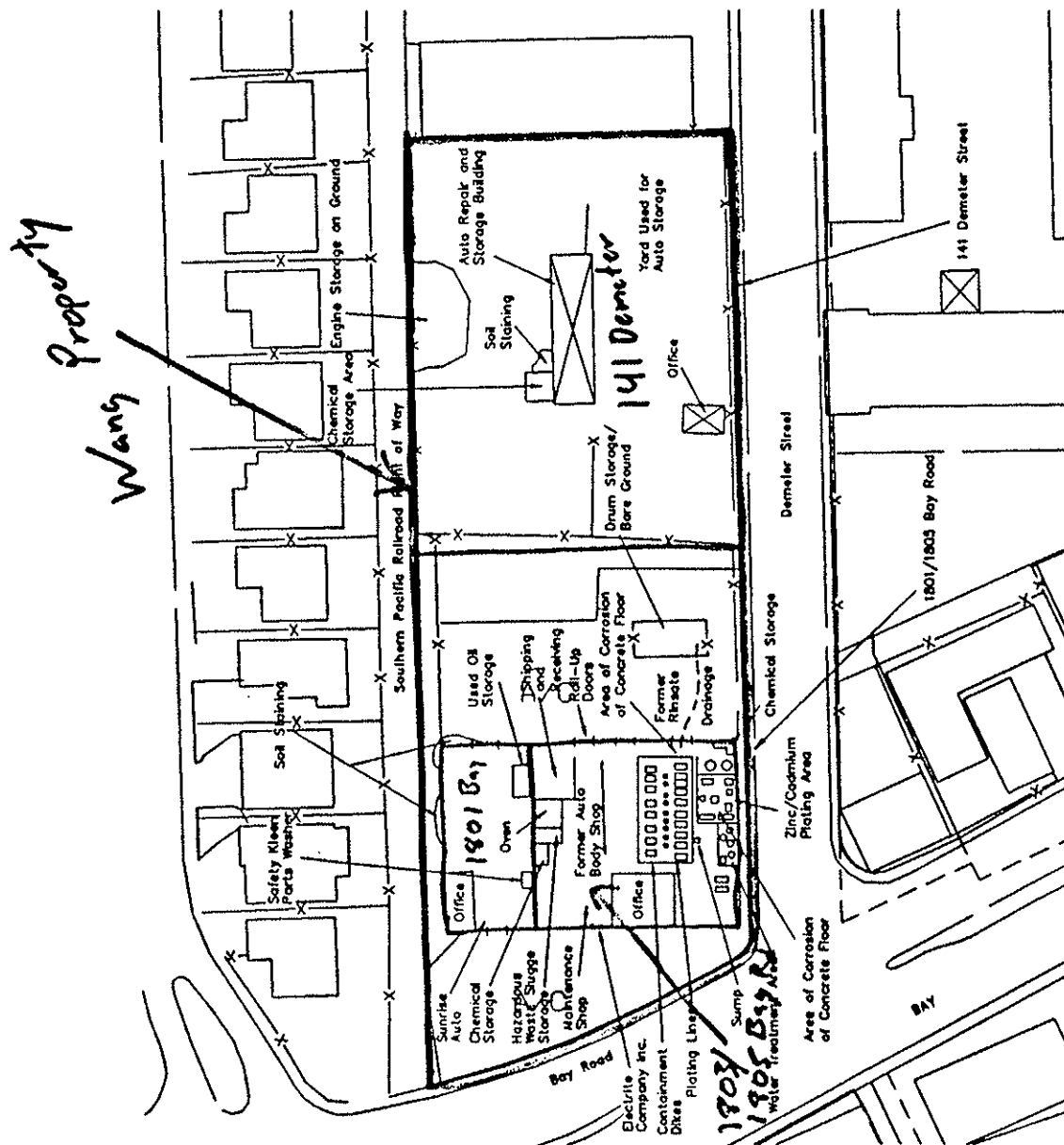
East Palo Alto, CA

March 1993

EKI 920050.00

Figure 32-1

Fig. 2





(Approximate Scale in Feet)

LEGEND

— Property-Line

—x— Fence

Notes:

1. All locations are approximate.

**Erler &
Kalinowski, Inc.**

Wang Properties 1801/1805 Bay Road

APN 063-133-130/063-133-110

IDEA

East Palo Alto, CA

March 1993

EKI 920050.00

Figure 32-1

FIG. 3

Electrite OU

